

REMARKS

Receipt of the Office Action of February 29, 2009 is gratefully acknowledged.

Claims 16 - 30 have been presented for examination. These have been rejected as follows: claims 16, 17 and 25 - 30 under 35 USC 102(e) by Dreyer et al; and claims 18 - 24 under 35 USC 103(a) over Dreyer et al in view of Frick

It is respectfully submitted, that none of the prior art documents cited by the examiner discloses or suggest the use of essentially straight grooves and corresponding straight projections provided in the side wall of the connecting compartment and at least one of the connecting elements, respectively, in connection with a modular measuring. To bring out this distinction clearly, claim 16 has been amended to recite the straight groove and straight projection feature of the invention in the side wall of the connecting element.

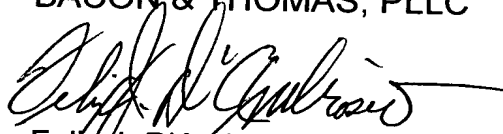
Dreyer et al and Frick may disclose a sensor module mounted with electronics module as indicated by the examiner. The sensor module according to Frick is mounted with electronics module via a thread-fitting, where the person of ordinary skill in the art would know that thread-fittings are formed by helical grooves and corresponding helical projection, but not formed by straight grooves and corresponding straight projections as indicated by the examiner. Therefore Frick does not disclose or teach the need for **straight grooves** and corresponding **straight projections** to mount a sensor module with an electronics module as now recited in the amended claims. Moreover, neither Frick nor Dreyer et al provides even a hint of the need of such straight grooves/projections to simplify mounting of such modules together and to assure that these two modules are mounted together in a correct way.

This distinction alone should render the present claims allowable over the art of record.

The specification has been amended to delete the reference numerals not specifically identified in the drawings so that amended drawings are not necessary.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and re-examination are respectfully requested and claims 16 - 31 found allowable.

Respectfully submitted,
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